

To-day's
Advertisements.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

THE DIVIDEND declared for the half-year ending 31st December, 1899, at the RATE of ONE POUND and TEN SHILLINGS together with a BONUS of TEN SHILLINGS Sterling per Share of \$125 is PAYABLE on and after MONDAY, the Nineteenth February, current at the OFFICES of the Corporation where Shareholders are requested to apply for WARRANTS.

By order of the Court of Directors,

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [225b]

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 2, Connaught Road, at NOON, on MONDAY, the 5th March, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1899.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 2nd February to 5th March, both days inclusive.

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Secretary,
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [224b]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, ILOILO AND CEBU. THE Company's Steamship.

"KWEIYANG,"
Captain Outerbridge, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 19th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [204b]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW. THE Company's Steamship.

"TAITAN,"
Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above Ports, on THURSDAY, the 20th instant.

This steamer has Superior Accommodation for Passengers and is fitted with the Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [226b]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship.

"ESMERALDA,"
Captain Ramsay, will be despatched for the above Port, on THURSDAY, the 22nd instant.

This steamer has Superior Accommodation for Passengers and is fitted with the Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [226b]



THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON. (Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL and AMERICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship.

"CLYDE,"
Captain E. Street, carrying Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this Port for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 3rd March, at Noon, taking Passengers and Goods for the above Ports.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London; other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed with Bonda by Tramship.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills of Lading.

For further Particulars, apply to H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [15]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIENSIN.

THE Company's Steamship.

"NANCHANG,"
Captain Finkhuyen, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 7th March.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [222b]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship.

"COROMANDEL,"
FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery, can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on cargo:—

From London, &c., ex S.S. *Britannia*. From Persian Gulf, ex S.S. *Kilwa*, *Moskhan* and *Gon*.

From Zanzibar, &c., ex S.S. *Cymara*. Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before 5 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 25th instant, at 4 P.M. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

All damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days after the Vessel's arrival here, after which no claims will be recognized.

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900.

To-day's
Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.

THE HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB
WILL GIVE
FOUR PERFORMANCES

OF
THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD,
OR
THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID,
BY

W. S. GILBERT & ARTHUR SULLIVAN,
THIS EVENING,
SATURDAY, 17th February,
MONDAY, 26th

Commencing each Evening at 9 P.M. precisely.

Dress Circle and Stalls \$3
Balcony 2
Half-price to the Fit for Soldiers, Sailors, and Police in Uniform.

TICKETS can be obtained at the Booking Office of the Theatre, CITY HALL, Daily at 10 A.M.

The BOOKING OFFICE will be OPEN Daily from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. except on Race Days, when it will be Open from 10 A.M. to 12 NOON.

Late Trains will run 1 hour after the fall of the curtain.

H. C. NICOLLE,
Acting Manager,
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [222b]

QUEENS COLLEGE.

TERM BEGINS FRIDAY,
the 23rd February.

APPLICATIONS for Admission attended by Guardians should be in the COLLEGE HALL, at 9 A.M., on either WEDNESDAY, the 21st or THURSDAY, the 22nd instants.

GEO. H. BATESON-WRIGHT, D.D.

Head Master,
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [226b]

NOTICE.

A MEETING of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace will be held at the MAGISTRACY at 2.30 P.M., WEDNESDAY, the 28th day of February, 1900, for the purpose of considering the following Applications:—

1. From one JAMES EDWARDS for a Publican's Licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situate at house No. 25, Des Vieux Road, under the sign of "The Oriental Hotel."

2. From one JOSEPH ROBERT GRIMBLE, for a Publican's for a Licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors, on the premises situate at houses Nos. 15 and 16, Jubilee Street, under the sign of "The Jubilee Hotel."

3. From one MORITZ FREIMAN for permission to remove his Licensed Publican's business from houses Nos. 332 and 334, Queen's Road Central, to houses Nos. 268 and 270, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of "Land We Live In Hotel."

4. From one H. J. GOMPERTZ, Acting Police Magistrate, Magistracy, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [217b]

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO. LIMITED.

THE FIFTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the COMPANY'S OFFICES, No. 9, Praya Central, Victoria, on THURSDAY, the 8th March, at 12 o'clock NOON, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1899, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 20th February to 8th March, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [221b]

TELEGRAMS.

KIMBERLEY RELIEVED.

General French Successful.

Sir Thomas Jackson courteously informs us that he has received the following telegram:—

LONDON, February 16th, 14.30 p.m.

It is officially announced French reached Kimberley last night.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S SERVICE.

THE WAR.

Modder River.

LONDON, February 15th.

Lord Roberts telegraphs from Dekelsdrift, 14th instant that General French with three brigades of Cavalry, Artillery and Mounted Infantry, has forced the passage of the Modder River at Klipdrift and occupied the hills to the Northward, capturing three laagers during the operation. In the meantime General Gordon's brigade seized two drifts to the Westward of General French meeting with slight opposition and small losses. The sixth division is now on the North bank of the Riet and moving to the support of the Cavalry. The seventh division is at Dekelsdrift and moves on in the afternoon.

LATER.

Mafeking.

Mafeking reported "all well" on the 4th inst. The garrison was again on full rations.

Col. Plumer was actively operating to the Southward (sic.) but his progress was hampered by the rains.

The Press on the War.

The newspapers are gratified at Lord Roberts' skilful Eastward advance which they consider the direct communication between Mafersfontein and Bloemfontein.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER GAZETTE SERVICE.

THE WAR.

Cape Colony.

LONDON, February 16th.

A Boer despatch from Colesberg, describing the driving in of the British outposts says that the British lost two maxims and about 200 men. The Boer losses on one flank were thirty.

Re-enforcements.

An official announcement states that six new horse, and fifteen field batteries, also three new battalions will be formed.

House of Lords.

In the House of Lords, Lord Kimberley said that he shared in Lord Rosebery's views regarding the danger of the situation and referred to the pressing question of the Indian frontier and to the consequences of the eventual death of the Amher and Russian activity. Lord Salisbury said he declined to discuss Russia's motives and that we should follow the example of our forefathers and not be downcast. He believed the Government's proposals were adequate and that any unforeseen emergencies would be met with a stout heart.

We guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine only when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

All damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days after the Vessel's arrival here, after which no claims will be recognized.

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent, Hongkong, 17th February, 1900.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

MARRIAGE.
On the 18th January, at Bremen, M. GROTE, of Hongkong, to LUCIE KLEVENHUSEN, of Bremen.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1900.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE WAR.

The telegram so courteously placed at our disposal by Sir THOMAS JACKSON, which we issued in the form of an extra this morning, is of a most cheering description and will be all the more appreciated on account of the long series of reverses which we have suffered during the course of the war in South Africa. Although the relief of Kimberley and the release of its garrison will not yet materially increase our effective force yet it will have a good moral effect and it also opens up a passage for us into the Orange Free State besides being the first step on the road to the relief of Colonel Baden-Powell and his plucky garrison shut up in Mafeking. We really believe that we are at last to see a change in the situation and that Lord ROBERTS will sweep forward through the Free State and the Transvaal and so force the Boers at present investing Ladysmith to move to meet him, thus rendering General BUTLER's task less arduous. It is a significant fact that despite the large number of men landed in South Africa during the last few weeks we have had no news of large re-enforcements being sent to Natal and this evidently points to the conclusion that Lord ROBERTS has no intention of dividing his forces any more but will advance in overwhelming force leaving the divisions already engaged in Natal and the North of Cape Colony to look after themselves and act on the defensive until such time as the Boer forces confronting them have become sufficiently weakened, by men being drawn to oppose Lord ROBERTS' column, to allow of their advancing. The relief of Kimberley and the presence of a large British force on the eastern border of the Free State must tend to render the Boers apprehensive of being taken in the rear and the further eastward Lord ROBERTS moves the more risk will there be of their retreat towards the Transvaal and Orange Free State being cut off. We shall anxiously await news of the advance during the next few days for it looks as though we were at last to have the satisfaction of being invaded by the invaders instead of the invaded.

H.M. FIRST-CLASS CRUISER *Argonaut*, on being relieved by the *Amethyst* in the Channel Squadron, will leave for the China Station.

Both new ships of 11,000 tons and 18,000 horse-power, armed with 16 six-inch guns, besides several smaller guns. The *Immortalis* is said to have been selected to relieve the *Undine*.

On Monday afternoon, on the Happy Valley, the Hongkong Football Club will play H.M.S. *Victor*. Kick-off at half-past four. The Club team will be:—F. H. Kew, goal; C. B. M. Jenkins and W. H. Howard, backs; S. L. Johnston, C. T. Kew and T. W. Hombly, halves; A. R. Lowe, J. E. Lee, J. F. Noble, H. C. R. Hancock and J. D. Danby, forwards.

THE BAND of the Hongkong Regiment will play at the Hongkong Hotel, this evening, from 8 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

PROGRAMME.

1. March "Patriot" St. George's Day.

2. October "Arabian" Arabians.

3. Valentine "Holland" Holland.

to the indisposition of Col. the Hon. R. H. Balle.

This is the second time in 4 years that "G" Coy have had the shield in their possession, and if they go on at this rate we should not be at all surprised to see them come home with the H.K. challenge shield. At any rate the Engineers will have all their work cut out to win.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY ON MR. WHITEHEAD'S PROTEST.

The following is the memorandum by Mr. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary, on the protest against Ordinance No. 40 of 1899, laid on the table at the last Council meeting:

In considering the reasons for introducing and passing this Ordinance, it should be remembered that the New Territory was taken over on the 17th April last, on which date the British flag was hoisted under the circumstances detailed in the correspondence already published. The population of the territory is estimated at about 100,000, being composed of people who for centuries have been acquainted with Chinese rule only. It is a matter of common knowledge that the Chinese are as a race suspicious and have a dread of their own officials. The reasons for that dread are well known, and may be aptly illustrated by the following experience of one of the inhabitants of the New Territory, which occurred when he was subject to Chinese jurisdiction. An attack was made upon his house by a large armed gang of robbers. He shot three and succeeded in beating the others off. The robbers complained to the Magistrate, who summoned the person attacked to attend, but made him pay \$150 before he would see him. After hearing the case the Magistrate ordered the sufferer to pay the funeral expenses of those shot, the other assailants being allowed to go scot-free. It is not surprising, therefore, that the inhabitants of the New Territory, who have hitherto been accustomed to such justice, should be inclined to appear before those in authority. Since the taking over of the New Territory, every effort has been made to overcome this disinclination, but it is difficult to overcome at once the habit of centuries, and it is not therefore unnatural that there should have been refusals, on the part of the inhabitants, to attend before the British Officials, who they fear may accord to them the treatment which they have been accustomed to receive. Every effort has been made to remove these suspicions. Thousands of notices and leaflets have been published and circulated throughout every village in the territory, and British Officers have regularly visited each district and sub-district and endeavoured to dispel groundless suspicions and fears by explaining fully the policy of the Government and the objects of the various measures that have been introduced from time to time. The Governor has also met all the elders of the sub-districts and clearly declared the intentions of Government, as may be seen from His Excellency's speech, a copy of which is attached. Two thousand Chinese versions of this speech were printed and distributed throughout the territory. The steps already taken have helped to partially dispel the doubts existing in the minds of the people, but the deep-rooted suspicion of ages and the prejudices existing against a foreign rule cannot be entirely eradicated at once. The result is that, though many may feel inclined to appear before an official when requested to do so, they are deterred from following their own inclination either because they do not wish to seem to run counter to popular feeling or are afraid, in view of their experiences under Chinese rule, that instead of receiving any benefit they will be sufferers. Invitations have frequently been sent to Chinese either to meet officials in their own villages or to attend at Taipoo, the headquarters of Government in the New Territory, in order to receive explanations regarding the registration of land, the objects of the survey of the New Territory, the preservation of trees, and other matters regarding which ignorance was creating unrest in the minds of the people. These invitations have been either partially or entirely disregarded. When, however, steps were taken to secure the attendance of those to whom invitations were issued and matters were explained to them, they acknowledged that they had behaved foolishly in not having complied with the invitation in the first instance and expressed their thanks for the information given them, which they declared would calm the fears of the people. They also confessed that, because, had they done so with alacrity, their action would have been misjudged by the people.

2. The object of the Ordinance is to secure the attendance of the people so that, on the one hand, full explanations of Government measures may be given to them, and so that, on the other hand, the Government may learn from the people what their views may be regarding any proposed measure and what objections they may have to urge when matters do not appear to be working smoothly. It is true that hitherto the attendance of the people has been invited chiefly in connection with the registration of land, regarding which much misapprehension exists. That such explanations have proved of great value is shown from the fact that when the work of registration of land commenced, very few claims were lodged notwithstanding the issue of many notices and leaflets, but that after the attendance of landholders was secured and their rights reinforced claims came in more rapidly and have now reached a total \$25,500. From what I have stated above, I think it will be recognised that the powers conferred by the Ordinance are both desirable and necessary, at any rate for the present. I am inclined to believe that, when Chinese inhabitants of the New Territory know that the power to compel them to attend exists, they will not show themselves so disinclined as heretofore to appear when invited and that it will be seldom, if ever, necessary to enforce the Ordinance.

3. Having dealt with the general question, I now proceed to deal with the details of the protest, which are in many respects erroneous and misleading.

4. Paragraph 2.—Mr. Whitehead states that had he been present when the Bill was before the Legislative Council, he would have voted against it, though he probably would have been overruled. I presume he means out-voted. He is, I think, correct in his surmise, as the Ordinance was passed unanimously. I attach a copy of the proceedings in the Legislative Council.

It is true that the Honourable Ho Kai, supported by the Honourable Wei A. Yuk, suggested that the Ordinance should only continue in operation for a period of two years. The suggestion was at once adopted by Government and clause 5 of the Ordinance reads as follows:

"This Ordinance shall only continue in operation for a period of two years from the coming into operation of this Ordinance, and for such further period or periods as may from time to time be determined by resolution of the Legislative Council."

As I have already indicated, I trust, at the expiry of two years, the inhabitants of the New

Territory may have become so accustomed to British rule that it may not be necessary to continue the Ordinance for any further period.

5. Paragraph 2.—Mr. Whitehead encloses copies of his notes to the Governor dated 28th and 29th December regarding the Ordinance, and in the latter states that he intends to ask the Chinese Members of Council to join in his protest against the Ordinance. As the protest is not signed by the Chinese Members and as no reference is made in it to them, it may be presumed that Mr. Whitehead has not been able to induce them to join him.

6. Paragraphs 3 & 8.—These paragraphs give a brief of the Ordinance and call for no remarks, except that it should be pointed out that the Government has no intention of using this Ordinance for purposes of criminal enquiry. All criminal offences in the New Territory are dealt with in exactly the same way as in Hongkong proper.

7. Paragraph 9.—I have already dealt with the general statements contained in this paragraph, but there are one or two points to which I wish to call particular attention.

8. Mr. Whitehead states that "the Government when inviting these poor people (and they are mostly all of the very poorest of the agricultural class) to come into Hongkong has never offered to pay either the cost of their passage to and fro, nor the expenses of their detention in Hongkong, nor any compensation for loss of time. Many of these men would have a journey of ten or fifteen or twenty, or even more, miles on hills or by sea. It would appear that they have only refused to come into Hongkong to have the situation explained to them, and that, I submit, may be due to the expense entailed in travelling to Hongkong."

9. Unfortunately for Mr. Whitehead's arguments his statements are not correct and his facts are wrong.

10. In each case in which the inhabitants of the New Territory have come to Hongkong to receive explanations of Government measures, conveyance has been provided for them by Government and steps have been taken to make their stay in Hongkong a pleasant one. As a matter of fact there have been only two occasions on which the inhabitants of the New Territory have been brought into Hongkong. On both occasions these parties had been invited in the first instance, to appear at Taipoo,

but did not attend, although on one occasion the Registrar General had proceeded from Hongkong to Taipoo to meet them. The result of the interviews in Hongkong on both occasions proved most satisfactory, and the parties expressed their thanks for the reception accorded to them. I may mention that many of the Committee-men have come to Hongkong and Taipoo of their own accord and have frequently been afforded conveyance by the Government.

11. Mr. Whitehead seems to think that any person summoned to attend will have to appear before the Registrar General in Hongkong. I have already referred to the Governor having met the Committee-men at Taipoo and Ping Shan; to the Registrar General having proceeded to Taipoo to meet certain of the inhabitants, and to other officials having visited every village. There is no intention on the part of the Government to inflict unnecessary hardships on the inhabitants of the New Territory, as Mr. Whitehead suggests. The object of the Government is to benefit the people, not to injure them. That being the case, it does not propose to make the inhabitants come to Hongkong unless compelled to do so, and it is necessary to compel their attendance in the future, as in the past, to provide them with conveyance and to see they are properly looked after.

12. Mr. Whitehead states:

"It has not been made clear that the Government has done everything that was reasonably possible to do to enlighten the men by proclamation posted in their respective villages or by the publication or distribution of leaflets."

It would be interesting to know what steps Mr. Whitehead took to enlighten himself on this subject before he committed himself to this statement. Everything possible has been done in the way of proclamation and leaflets to inform the people of the intentions of the Government. Thousands of notices on a variety of subjects have been posted in each village, and as I have already stated, two thousand copies of the Chinese translation of the speech of the Governor to the Committee-men were distributed. A Chinese translation of the Ordinance creating Committees was kindly prepared under the supervision of the Honourable Ho Kai and two thousand copies distributed. In addition to the publication of notices and distribution of leaflets, officials have visited each village in the territory in person and explained orally to the villagers such points as were thought to require further elucidation.

13. Paragraph 10.—I have already explained what the main object of the Ordinance is, so it is unnecessary for me to again point out that, though the land question is the most important, there are other matters almost equally important regarding which the attendance of the inhabitants is necessary from time to time.

14. Paragraph 11.—As regards this paragraph, I would point out that any enquiry under the Ordinance can only be held by direction of the Governor. As to the confidence reposed in the Governor by the Chinese, I may quote the Honourable Ho Kai, who, speaking on the Pó Leung Kuk Incorporation Ordinance in Legislative Council on the 2nd June, 1893, stated as follows:

(Hansard, page 93.) "We have in this Colony a Governor and we always look upon him as the representative of Her Majesty the Queen, and as Chinese subjects here, and also as subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, it is only fair to suppose that they would always desire to submit the final decision of their differences to the Governor alone."

I am certain that the Chinese, whether in Hongkong or in the New Territory, will be quite satisfied of the necessity and justice of any enquiry the Governor may direct to be made.

15. As to Mr. Whitehead's remarks regarding the department of the Registrar General, they are not surprising as coming from one who stated in Council in 1893:—"I would sweep away if I could the Registrar General's Department." It is not to be wondered at he regards it as the least qualified of any department to exercise the powers conferred by the Ordinance and as incapable of impartiality. But when he deals with a department, which he considers should be swept away, one would expect, accurately in the statement, in fact, regarding it. It is not the case that junior members of the Civil Service have frequently acted as Registrar General. The present holder of the post has 20 years' service, and those who have acted for him have invariably been officers of standing, who have been specially qualified for the post.

16. In paragraph 11 Mr. Whitehead states that the Registrar General "may be and almost necessarily must be in the hands of the Chinese in his department," and in paragraph 13 states, to show, by quoting Dr. Ho Kai, that the Chinese generally are entirely at the mercy of the Registrar General. That is, the Registrar General is at one time the slave and at another the master of the Chinese. "This is not the first occasion on which Mr. Whitehead has made

use of the remarks by Dr. Ho Kai. On page 93 of Hansard 1893 Dr. Ho Kai protests against such use in the following words:—

"The Honourable Member of Chamber of Commerce [i.e., Mr. Whitehead] quoted one of my speeches on the subject in which I spoke against the advisability of the Registrar General getting people, Chinese gentlemen, individually, into his office and asking them their opinions on certain subjects. The quotation is a very long one. I do not propose to read it, but it is found in the report [i.e., the Pó Leung Kuk] on page 13. Upon that the Honourable Member seemed to think that the Registrar General should not consult the Chinese, but that he should be outside and above them. He misunderstood me and took just the opposite view to that which I wished to convey in that speech. I meant to say that the Registrar General should not ask Chinese singly and individually to come to his office, but I never intended that the Registrar General should not have the Chinese assembled in his office and discuss matters openly. That has been done, though not in his Committee [i.e., the Committee of the Pó Leung Kuk] because we have not yet appointed a Committee and I do not know whether in former times it has been done, but I do know, since I have been a member of the District Watchmen Committee, that we discuss and decide by the vote of the majority, and I venture to believe that, though sometimes the Registrar General has his dignity not been affected and that it was not derogatory to his high position to be out-voted."

17. The remarks of Dr. Ho Kai, as Mr. Whitehead states, are not wholly pertinent to the present subject, but are used as they have been, entirely apart from their context, may be quite misleading.

18. Mr. Whitehead states that "the Government when inviting these poor people (and they are mostly all of the very poorest of the agricultural class) to come into Hongkong has never offered to pay either the cost of their passage to and fro, nor the expenses of their detention in Hongkong, nor any compensation for loss of time. Many of these men would have a journey of ten or fifteen or twenty, or even more, miles on hills or by sea. It would appear that they have only refused to come into Hongkong to have the situation explained to them, and that, I submit, may be due to the expense entailed in travelling to Hongkong."

19. Unfortunately for Mr. Whitehead's arguments his statements are not correct and his facts are wrong.

20. In each case in which the inhabitants of the New Territory have come to Hongkong to receive explanations of Government measures, conveyance has been provided for them by Government and steps have been taken to make their stay in Hongkong a pleasant one. As a matter of fact there have been only two occasions on which the inhabitants of the New Territory have been brought into Hongkong. On both occasions these parties had been invited in the first instance, and objected to the Chinese being

placed in such a position.

21. The following extracts from Hansard pp. 99-100, 1893, are interesting in view of Mr. Whitehead's present attitude:

"Honourable T. H. Whitehead:—I say the Registrar General has exercised a wise control which has been very desirable and which has also been very effective; and I think it would be a great pity if that control should be given up, and dispensed with."

22. The Registrar General:—I say again that the Registrar General does not want to be placed in the position of the dictator of the Chinese and it is no use for the Honourable Member who represents the Chamber of Commerce to fence with words. That is undoubtedly the position he wishes to place the Registrar General in."

23. Honourable T. H. Whitehead:—They have said themselves that their object is to put the Registrar General under their thumb; in fact, to control the Registrar General."

24. Honourable Ho Kai:—I think that our leading Chinese would prefer to be placed continually under an intelligent official rule rather than be placed under the unreasonable and illiberal treatment of an unofficial régime."

25. Paragraph 12.—Mr. Whitehead states that the Registrar General's Department was entrusted with power somewhat similar to those in the present Ordinance in connection with the registration of land, the objects of the survey of the New Territory, the preservation of trees, and other matters regarding which ignorance was creating unrest in the minds of the people. These invitations have been either partially or entirely disregarded. When, however, steps were taken to secure the attendance of those to whom invitations were issued and matters were explained to them, they acknowledged that they had behaved foolishly in not having complied with the invitation in the first instance and expressed their thanks for the information given them, which they declared would calm the fears of the people. They also confessed that, because, had they done so with alacrity, their action would have been misjudged by the people.

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It would be interesting to know what steps Mr. Whitehead took to enlighten himself on this subject before he committed himself to this statement. Everything possible has been done

in the way of proclamation and leaflets to inform the people of the intentions of the Government.

27. Mr. Whitehead must surely remember that, in view of the great and unusual powers conferred on the Registrar General by that Ordinance, it was considered necessary, to renew the Ordinance from time to time by resolution of the Legislative Council, because he was a member of Council when such resolutions were brought before Council and passed. After that Ordinance had been in force for some time, experience showed that it had been worked successfully and that the great powers which it conferred were not abused. As a result, the Ordinance was read permanent in the Statute Book, and Mr. Whitehead was amongst those members of Council who gave their vote in favour of this course.

28. Paragraph 14.—Mr. Whitehead points out that there is no provision in the Ordinance for payment to the person summoned of his expenses in coming to Hongkong, of his return; no compensation for his loss of time. As I have previously pointed out, on the two occasions on which inhabitants of the New Territory were brought to Hongkong, they were provided with conveyance and well looked after. This paragraph seems to infer that in every case in which a person's attendance is desired, he will be brought to Hongkong. There is no such intention. Attendance in Hongkong will be the exception and not the rule, as has hitherto been the case, because it is difficult to provide for the convenience of such as Mauritius or Ceylon, or for the Chinese in the New Territory.

29. Paragraph 15.—As regards this paragraph, I would point out that any enquiry under the Ordinance can only be held by direction of the Governor. As to the confidence reposed in the Governor by the Chinese, I may quote the Honourable Ho Kai, who, speaking on the Pó Leung Kuk Incorporation Ordinance in Legislative Council on the 2nd June, 1893, stated as follows:

(Hansard, page 93.) "We have in this Colony a Governor and we always look upon him as the representative of Her Majesty the Queen, and as Chinese subjects here, and also as subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, it is only fair to suppose that they would always desire to submit the final decision of their differences to the Governor alone."

I am certain that the Chinese, whether in Hongkong or in the New Territory, will be quite satisfied of the necessity and justice of any enquiry the Governor may direct to be made.

30. As to Mr. Whitehead's remarks regarding the department of the Registrar General, they are not surprising as coming from one who stated in Council in 1893:—"I would sweep away if I could the Registrar General's Department." It is not to be wondered at he regards it as the least qualified of any department to exercise the powers conferred by the Ordinance and as incapable of impartiality. But when he deals with a department, which he considers should be swept away, one would expect, accurately in the statement, in fact, regarding it. It is not the case that junior members of the Civil Service have frequently acted as Registrar General. The present holder of the post has 20 years' service, and those who have acted for him have invariably been officers of standing, who have been specially qualified for the post.

31. Mr. Whitehead goes on to say:—

"Surely, if the Government has any legitimate enquiries to make it should carry out these enquiries on the spot, in the village to which they refer."

I have already pointed out that officers regularly visit the various villages, and it stands to reason that if the enquiries made and explanations given locally are satisfactory, no further attendance of persons will be necessary.

32. Paragraph 15.—There is only one point in this paragraph to which I desire to point out, and that is the reference to what Mr. Whitehead calls the "alleged land robbery" in the Colony's New Territories. It is true that there were many rumours on that subject after the New Territory had been taken over and a suggestion was made that a Commission of Enquiry should be appointed. I pointed out on the 3rd May last (see *Blue Book* despatches and other Papers relating to the Extension of Hongkong, Sessional Paper No. 32/1899, p. 52) that it would be best, in the first instance, for the Land Officer in the New Territory to investigate the matter as he could call upon the landholders in each district to forward to him any complaints they might have to make which could be enquired into on the spot, and that, if after the investigation, a Commission was considered desirable it could be appointed. The Governor concurred in my proposal. On the 12th July the Governor issued a Chinese proclamation regarding land, which was posted throughout the villages in the New Territory. I attach an English version of the Proclamation and beg to draw attention to the last paragraph, which is to the following effect:—

"This Ordinance shall only continue in operation for a period of two years from the coming into operation of this Ordinance, and for such further period or periods as may, from time to time, be determined by resolution of the Legislative Council."

33. In paragraph 15 Mr. Whitehead states that the Registrar General "may be and almost necessarily must be in the hands of the Chinese in his department," and in paragraph 13 states, to show, by quoting Dr. Ho Kai, that the Chinese generally are entirely at the mercy of the Registrar General. That is, the Registrar General is at one time the slave and at another the master of the Chinese. "This is not the first occasion on which Mr. Whitehead has made

"If any one has been forcibly deprived of his land or been fraudulently induced to sell land at a low price he may present a petition to the District Officer if he lives North of the Kowloon Range of Hills, or if he lives South of it to the Registrar General or his Visiting Officer, to be forwarded to the Squatters Board for enquiry."

On the 2nd and 4th August last, the Governor was met by the Committees of the sub-districts at Taipoo and Ping Shan, when he concluded his speech on both occasions in the following words:—

"I wish to add a few more words on the subject of land. It had been reported to me that as soon as the Convention between the Emperor of China and the Queen of Great Britain was signed, certain people were induced to sell their lands at a low value by being told that the British Government would take possession of the land without payment when they came into the Territory. I take this opportunity of telling you, the Elders, and the Gentry of all the Villages, that if any man has been induced to sell his land by these false representations, I am satisfied he can give notice to the Land Officer who will register the title until the real question at issue has been looked into and decided. I have mentioned all this before by proclamation, but I wish to emphasise it more strongly now that I see the Gentry and Elders before me, as I am determined that if any man has been improperly induced to give his land away under its value, I will not accept the sale as valid."

It will be thus seen that the Government has spared neither pains nor time in trying to discover whether land has been obtained by false representations. Up to the

Insurances.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE
ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE
UNITED STATES.

FINAL FIGURES
FOR 1899.

THE Head Office of the Eastern Branch has now received a further Telegram giving the revised Figures for the past year, which show an increase, both in Assets and Surplus upon the previous year.

The final figures are:

ASSETS.
£58,373,185.

SURPLUS.
£12,732,808.

NEW BUSINESS.
1899.
£49,354,548.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS.
on 31st December.
£210,670,088.

F. KIENE,
Acting Manager,
No. 9, Praya Central,
Hongkong.

12th February, 1900. [186]

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above
Company are prepared to accept First
Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at
CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSEN & Co.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1895. [130]

Intimations.

TREASURY.

TENDERS for SPECIES MEXICAN
DOLLARS. Current in this Colony, and
weighing 7.575, in Exchange for Sterling Bills
drawn at 10 days' sight on the Louis Commissioners
of Her Majesty's Treasury, London,
will be received by the Officer in Charge of
H.M. Treasury, until 11 A.M., on THURSDAY,
the 2nd instant.

The Tenders to state the total amount required
in Pounds Sterling, and the amount for
which each Bill should be drawn, but no
Bills will be issued for sums less than £100.

The Tenders to be in Duplicate and in sealed
covers, addressed to the Officer in Charge of
H.M. Treasury, and endorsed "Tenders for
Treasury Bills."

The right to accept or reject any or all of the
Tenders is reserved.

E. H. GORGES, Colonel,
T. C. Officer, China.

Her Majesty's Treasury Office,
Queen's Road.
Hongkong, 15th February, 1900. [215b]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCK
CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING
OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in
the OFFICES of the Company, Queen's Buildings,
New Praya, on MONDAY, the 26th
February, 1900, at 3 o'clock P.M., for the
purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors
and the Statement of Accounts to the 31st
December, 1899.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 13th to 26th
February, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board of Directors,

THOS. I. ROSE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1900. [127b]

THE CHINA-BORNEO COMPANY,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FIRST ORDINARY YEARLY
MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in
the above Company will be held at the OFFICES
of the Company, No. 3, Queen's Buildings, on
WEDNESDAY, the 28th day of February, at
12 o'clock (NOON) to receive a Statement
of Accounts to 31st December, 1899, and the
Report of the Manager and Consulting
Committee, and to elect a Consulting Committee
and Auditor.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 14th to 28th instant,
both days inclusive.

J. WHEELEY,
Manager.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1900. [191b]

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE
CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY FIRST ORDINARY
ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS
in the above Company, will be held at the OFFICES
of the Company, Pepperton Street, on
THURSDAY, the 1st day of March,
1900, at 12 o'clock (NOON), to receive a Statement
of Accounts to 31st December, 1899, and the
Report of the General Managers, and to
elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 15th February to
the 1st March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO.,
General Managers.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE
CO., LIMITED.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1900. [129b]

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE THIRTY FIRST ORDINARY
ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS
in the Company will be held at the COMPANY'S
OFFICES, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, Victoria,
on THURSDAY, the 8th March, at 12 o'clock
(NOON), for the purpose of receiving a Statement
of Accounts and the Report of the Directors
for the year ending 31st December, 1899.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 22nd instant to the
8th March, both days inclusive.

By Order,

GEO. L. TOMLIN,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1900. [171b]

Mails.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.)



PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS. DESTINATIONS. SAILING DATES.

WAKASA MARU. MARSEILLE, LONDON & ANT. [FRIDAY, 23rd Feb., at J. U. MacMillan] WERF, VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO and PORT SAID. Daylight.

KASUGA MARU. MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE. [FRIDAY, 23rd Feb., at E. W. Haswell] 4 P.M.

FUTAMI MARU. NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKO- [SATURDAY, 24th Feb., at J. Thom] HAMA. Noon.

MURAKI MARU. BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE and COLOMBO. [FRIDAY, 2nd March, at S. Kawamura] Neon.

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings, &c., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office at No. 7, Praya Central.

A. S. MIHARA,
Manager.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1900. [6]

NORDDEUTSCHER
LLOYD.



(Freight Service.)

Taking cargo at through rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, LISBON, OPORTO, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRIESTE, GENOA, PORTS IN THE LEVANTE; BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS; NORTH and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS. DESTINATIONS. SAILING DATES.

ALESSIA. BORDEAUX, HAVRE & HAMBURG. [27th February, at Knuth] (LONDON with transhipment in HAMBURG) Freight.

ASTURIA. NEW YORK. [About 18th March, at Hildebrand] Freight.

SAVOIA. HAVRE and HAMBURG. [About 22nd March, at Jager] Freight and Passage.

XANONIA. HAVRE and HAMBURG. [About 31st March, at Krech] Freight.

HEIDELBERG. HAVRE and HAMBURG. [About 6th April, at Schneider] Freight and Passage.

* These Steamers have Superior Accommodation for Passengers and carry a Doctor, and a Stewardess.

For further particulars as to Freight, Passage, &c., apply to CARLOWITZ & CO., Agents.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA. U.S. MAIL LINE.
TO SAN FRANCISCO, VIA INLAND SEA
OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

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HOW OUR GUNS FOR SOUTH AFRICA ARE MADE.

SOME OF THE WONDERS OF THE WORK-SHOPS AT THE WOOLWICH ARSENAL.

Never in the history of England has the subject of artillery been so universally discussed as at present. It is generally recognised that the weapons which the War Office has sent out to South Africa are unsatisfactory and insufficient for the work in hand, and the reverses which have attended the advance of the British forces were attributed in a great measure to that fact. Everybody is talking guns and gunnery; and, under the circumstances, some particulars about the making of field-pieces and the place where they are made, will not be without interest.

The guns for the British Navy and Army are turned out at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. There also our ammunition is made, from the smallest rifle cartridge to the huge shell-fired by the 110-ton gun.

Perhaps nothing demonstrates more strikingly the might of the British Empire than a visit to the Woolwich Arsenal. Something like 18,000 men are employed there, many of them at the present crisis working night and day. The wages bill amounts to a million and a half annually, and three million pounds' worth of guns and ammunition are turned out in the twelve months. Perhaps the best idea of the magnitude of the place can be afforded by stating the fact that a complete service of trains runs between the factories. All trains are first, second, and third class, and they carry every body, from the superintendent of the visiting Commander-in-Chief to the

YOUNGEST APPRENTICE LAD.

In a sense, the Arsenal illustrates the development of our Navy and Army, for here and there the visitor may see great piles of obsolete weapons, that in their day seemed the deadliest things in warfare. Now they are merely small mountains of scrap-iron. Should some of the guns now in South Africa have been added to those rubbish heaps? That is a question for future settlement.

From its earliest days the Woolwich Arsenal seems to have suffered from the excessive economy of Chancellors of the Exchequer. Its annals show that if England had been suddenly plunged into war between the years 1870-80 a decisive defeat of the British arms would have been inevitable; for parsimony on the part of the gentleman who kept the national purse had resulted in the store of cartridges becoming so reduced that at one time it was found necessary to transfer half a million rounds from the northern depots to London to meet immediate wants!

This state of affairs was pointed out to a well-known Cabinet Minister. The danger of the certainty of defeat if you broke out were dilated upon.

"Gentlemen," the Minister replied, "are there not lamp-posts in Pall-mall? And when that defeat comes the populace will make big effort to utilize them!"

Did he mean that the lamp-posts would be converted into canon, or that the populace would take refuge up them?

Such then, is one of the difficulties that the admirable staff at Woolwich Arsenal have to deal with. But they themselves in days gone by nodded more than once. A huge mortar was forged in 1855 with view to its being used in the Crimea. It had a bore of 36in. The shells to feed it were so enormous that special appliances had to be erected to hoist them into its capacious maw. When the day of trial came the monster cracked! It was all a mist from beginning to end. The gun is now used at the Arsenal for merely decorative purposes; it would certainly never have been of any use.

There is a gigantic steam hammer which may also be ranked among the relics. In the days of the iron muzzle-loader this machine was erected for the purpose of welding the great coils of iron, and it has a striking energy of 1,000 tons! White-hot iron used to melt under pressure like butter before a fire.

Now our most modern heavy guns are made of steel and wire. The latter is wrapped round the inner tube, and really forms one of the skins of the gun. In the case of a 12in. gun no less than 100 miles of wire are used, and, although the most ingenious contrivances are employed this wrapping process would not be completed in less than three weeks if the men worked night and day! This wire has to bear a strain of over ninety tons to the square inch!

To watch the process of turning a 6 inch gun—the class being sent to the war—one would imagine that the ponderous steel tubes were nothing more than wood, and that the thin strips which fly before the hammers were merely shavings. At one time the lady visitor to Woolwich would invariably be presented by some clever enterprising apprentice with a bracelet made from the chips of steel. The boys used to occupy their leisure time in fashioning the ornaments. But now they have no leisure time. In their way they are very busy helping to wipe that "something off a slate," and the lady visitor must be forced to forego the souvenir.

Another very interesting process is the rifling of a field piece. A steel cutter is fixed at the end of a massive rod, which is driven along the interior of the tube by an ingenious but simple piece of mechanism. It is a rather prolonged business, and may occupy any length of time up to fourteen days.

The main object of rifling is to insure greater accuracy of aim than is possible with a smooth-bore gun. But it has been found that the grooves have a tendency to wear away after a succession of shots. Usually a heavy gun requires rifling after about 150 rounds have been fired. When the breeches have been fixed the gun is painted and is ready for use, having—in the case of a 12-inch quick-firer—cost from first to last about £7,500. It has absorbed the energies of 500 men, and machinery representing 1,000 horse-power. The 6-inch gun being sent to the front can be fired at the rate of five shots a minute.

A few words about the shell these guns fire—and first place to the lyddite class, to the power of which the Boers have voluntarily testified. Lyddite shells are a comparatively recent addition to our munitions. They were used in warfare for the first time at Omdurman, where they played havoc with the Mosques.

Each kind of shell at Woolwich is painted a distinctive colour. The complexion of the lyddite shell is yellow—a colour which suggests that of the terrible explosive. When a lyddite shell strikes anything its leaves it mark behind it in a double sense. If it does not annihilate the object it is aimed at it brands it a yellowish colour. No doubt many of the boulders behind which the Boers hide have been thus decorated. Chemists have discovered that lyddite in itself is an excellent cure for burns. What incongruity! Of other kinds of shell shrapnel is coloured a vivid red, while the armour-piercing variety have a white ring painted just below the point.

All shells at present used by the British War Office may be divided into three great groups; viz.: the armour-piercing, the common shell, and the shrapnel. The first-named relies solely on its own weight and the force with which it is discharged to pierce with its sharp, hardened point the objective it is aimed at. On concussion it explodes, and thus completes its deadly work. The common shell, deprived of its point, is used mainly for the damage it causes

by the bursting of the charge within it. It is provided with a time fuse, and on exploding breaks into hundreds of pieces, casting death and destruction all round it.

The shrapnel differs by reason of the fact that it contains hundreds of bullets, which are calculated to work fearful havoc among a body of advancing troops.

The weight of some of these shells is almost incredible. The 110-ton gun, for instance, burls a steel projectile weighing 1,500lbs (or half a ton) a distance of nine miles. So that when the British guns do "begin to speak" their voices carry no little distance.—*Advocate of India.*

THE BOER SOLDIER

(BY POULTNEY BIGELOW.)

On the occasion of my visit to the Transvaal in the year made memorable by the Jameson raid, and the imperial cable to Paul Kruger, there was much military stir, and speculation was already then rife regarding a possible conflict between Boer and Briton. President Kruger received me in a house protected by an encampment of mounted police, and when I called upon General Joubert, his office resembled a museum of modern rifles, for he was discussing with his colleagues the relative merits of Mauser, Krag Jorgenson, Mannin-Henry, Lebel, and other makes. Above the town German engineers were constructing artillery positions which I was not allowed to inspect, or even approach. From a distance I was reminded of some of the forts about Metz. The commander of the Nation's Artillery, a broad-faced, good-natured Boer, and who looked to me somewhat odd in the Austrian uniform, showed me over his camp and dwelt with pride upon the new barracks and stables in course of erection. His artillery is a good-looking set of young men; the equipment appeared to be of the best quality; the Krupp guns were well-cared for, and there was besides an anomalous battery made up of what was captured from Jameson. The Cape was in which that invader had made his progress was treasured as carefully as is the couch in which Napoleon died from the field of Waterloo.

But of all the military things in and about Pretoria none was so significant to me as a piece of artillery which had seen service in the war of 1881. The whole of this machine might have been constructed by an average village black-smith. The tires of ex-wagons had been heated and then wound round and round something cylindrical, and so hammered together as to pass for a canon by those of us who have seen specimens constructed in the Middle Ages. This strange instrument was mounted on the forward end of a bullock wagon, and the train of it must have been done by gunners who believed in a special provider in lieu of range-finders.

The Boers love this crazy old gun, for it symbolizes to them a capacity to impinge upon us weapons, and wield them successfully when their cause seems desperate to the rest of the world.

The history of British rule in South Africa offers many instances of English and Dutch fighting side by side against the common enemy, but we regret to say many more when the Boer has regarded resistance to the redcoats as his highest duty. The bitter feeling which to-day abhors white men in the mists of a wilderness where united they are barely a match for a nation, from a long chain of events, most of them highly creditable to the moral sense of the British Parliament, but so far as political sense is concerned, most unfortunate.

The battle of Waterloo not only resulted in populating St. Helena with Napoleon I, but made the Cape Colony the permanent home of a strong British administration. The year 1815 had not closed before this administration came into conflict on the borders of the Cape Colony with a certain Boer named Beaufort, who declined to recognize the authority of a court messenger halting him for trial. This Boer was a rough frontiersman, who had as hazy a notion of government as any Pole. Young Boers can no longer get a good education at Pretoria, but must go to a neighbouring colony for this purpose. Of late years the Kruger Government has emulated the spirit of Pobedonosoff in seeking to exterminate the language and the institutions which appeared to be hostile to the Government. Instead of recruiting the official ranks from their brother Boers in adjoining colonies, they have confessed to an almost Chinese lack of capacity by drawing young clerks directly from Rotterdam, and exhibiting lavish taste in conflict, and finally, in 1816, six of the ring-leaders were tried for high treason and hung at a place called Slagters Nek.

The Great Trek, a wholesale emigration of Boers from the Cape Colony to the uplands of the interior, did not commence until 1836, twenty years later. From Slagters Nek there went forth a band of irreconcilable farmers or cowboys who had so long lived beyond the constraint of law that they could not reconcile themselves to any government. They had their counterpart in the American frontiersmen, who, in these same years, was fighting his way over the Allegheny mountains, down the Ohio river, and toward the Texas border.

While small parties of Boers were, in these early years, joining their brethren of roving, if not lawless, tastes on the fringes of the then civilized South Africa, the greatest body of the people recognised the good intentions of the British Government and remained loyal.

Things might have gone on smoothly enough but for an agitation in England whose object was the immediate abolition of slavery.

This movement originated with men full of philanthropic zeal, but empty of political sagacity.

The Boer farmers had for many generations worked their estates by means of slaves, as was then universally the custom in all parts of the world where black men were to be found.

Boer recognized the desirability of treating slaves humanely—he was even prepared to abolish the institution by slow degrees. But this much I may say, that the whole world has an interest in its speedy close and above all in its conduct, so that it may leave behind the least possible trace of animosity.

Time works wonders in these matters, for many of us present, who can recall the hatred of Americans during the great Civil War, now witness their descendants fighting side by side for a united country. Boers and Britons have stood shoulder to shoulder in their wars with native tribes, and I, for one, expect to see the day when we shall hear from the Cape to the Zambezi only one tongue, know only one union of free states, and see but one uniform under which shall beat loyal hearts descended from the men who now face each other in anger.

The Independent.

lock. These people left the mother colony, if not the mother country, in bitterness at the injustice, they had experienced, and they retired into a wilderness where the post did not penetrate, and where no news reached them of the grand progress in liberal legislation which marks the England of Queen Victoria's early years.

After the Boers had fought their way through

Natal and settled at Durban, the English Government laid its hand upon the Colony,

withdrew it again, and then changed its mind,

and once more claimed it. It is fortunate

for the commerce of the world that Natal is to-day English, for it is a pattern for other colonies and its cities are in favourable contrast with those of the Boer Republic. But from the Boer point of view the behaviour of the English Government was capricious, if not

shameful.

In 1835 Dutch and English had fought

splendidly side by side in the Cape Colony

against an invasion of 15,000 blacks, who

had been for some time occupied in stealing

cattle and destroying farm-houses. The

amount of damage done has been officially

assessed at £30,000, intended to cover the loss

of 45 farm houses completely destroyed, 50 others partially destroyed, and 60 big farm

wagons destroyed. The sto in property included

about 9,000 horses, 112,000 cattle, and

162,000 sheep. The Boers fought bravely, suffered great hardships, and earned the gratitude of every colonist at the Cape, and notably that of the Governor, Sir Benjamin d'Urban, who called them out. They had been promised compensation for their losses during the war, and looked at least for grateful acknowledgment in Downing Street. The result, however, was a surprise to everyone, from the Governor down. Downing Street scolded them roundly for fighting against the blacks—indeed, it was very evident that missionaries and not soldiers were in power at Westminster. This along with the stain of their property, through the sudden abolition of slavery, brought to the side of the Boers a large portion of the wavering population, who were made to feel that while the black man could secure any favour through Exeter Hall, there was not even common justice for a Boer. The eighty years which have elapsed between the Battle of Waterloo and the Jameson raid have been

in which a large portion of Boers have been handled by us freely as we handle the pen.

They have fought their way through black tribes outnumbering them ten to one. Some

of their expeditions have been massacred,

but the rest have not been discouraged.

Even to-day the recitation of Boers who

live in town is to go for a day's

ride shooting, if possible after game, if not,

then at a target. Every Boer, from the

Chief Justice down, knows how to cook in the

open and organize a bivouac. It is safe to say

that even to-day the average citizen of the

Transvaal is ready at a moment's notice to take the field fully armed and equipped for at least

three days.

The chief enemy of the Boer to-day is not

England, but his own ignorance.

The Boer under the English flag enjoys more

liberty than in the Transvaal, yet sojourners

thereby are compelled to pay a heavy price.

They are compelled to pay a heavy price.

Shipping.

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SHEWAN TOMES & CO'S. "NEW YORK" LINE.

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.
THE Steamship

"QUEEN ELEANOR,"
will be despatched for the above Port, on
MONDAY, the 19th instant.

To be followed by

The Steamship "MORVEN,"

about the 25th February, 1900.

For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1900. [19b]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR NAGASAKI, KOBE AND

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THE Company's Steamship

"DENBIGHSHIRE,"

H. N. Vyvyan, Commander, will be despatched for the above Ports on or about MONDAY, the 19th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

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Hongkong, 10th February, 1900. [19b]

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMSHIPS.

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship

"GLEN TURRET,"

Captain Jackson, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 20th instant, at Noon.

For Freight, apply to

MCGREGOR BROS. & GOW, Agents.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1900. [20b]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"STENTOR,"

Captain Jackson, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 20th February.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1900. [51b]

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

FOR MANILA.

THE Company's Steamship

"KASUGA MARU,"

(3,800 Tons Gross, Captain E. W. Haswell,) will be despatched for the above Port, on FRIDAY, the 23rd instant, at 4 P.M.

This new Mail Steamer is specially constructed for service in the Tropics and is provided with Superior Accommodation and with all modern fittings, and improvements for the safety and comfort of Passengers, Electric Light and Refrigerator, Doctor and Stewardess carried.

Return Tickets issued by this Company are available for return by steamers of the other Lines.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

A. S. MIHARA, Manager.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1900. [20b]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR KOBE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU,"

Captain Williams, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 26th January, 1900. [115b]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LIVERPOOL (DIRECT).

Taking Cargo at London Rates.

THE Company's Steamship

"NESTOR,"

Captain Aquith, will be despatched on WEDNESDAY, the 7th March.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1900. [181b]

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR LONDON.

THE Company's Steamship

"TEENKAI,"

D. Davies, Commander, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 14th March.

For Freight, &c., apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd February, 1900. [138b]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"CALCHAS,"

Captain Gregory, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 30th March.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1900. [182b]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"ST. REGULUS,"

will be despatched for the above Port.

For Freight, apply to

BODWELL & CO., LIMITED, Agents.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1900. [132b]

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.,

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Consignees.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of CARGO per Steamship

"HONGKONG MARU."

The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1900. [7]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FROM LONDON AND STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"GLEN TURRET,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her, are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional cargo will be carried on unless instructions are given to the contrary before 4 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 21st instant, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

All ship damaged packages must be left in the Godowns, and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days of the steamer's arrival, after which no claims will be recognised.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before Noon, TO-MORROW, the 17th instant.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 16th February, 1900. [219b]

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS,

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AND GENERAL COMMISSION

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COMPOSITION RED HAND

BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT,

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and

P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUEUR SCOTCH

WHISKY, &c.

EVERY KIND OF

SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES

ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT REASONABLE PRICES.

Hongkong, 13th May, 1900. [138]

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Shanghai Cotton Spinning Mills.

Tokio Cotton Spinning Mills.

Meiki Cotton Spinning Mills.

Imperial Government Paper Mills.

Onoda Cement Company.

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA,

M. FUJISE, Manager.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1900. [33]

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